

"(2) if the appointment is less than full time, the period that is equivalent to 2 years of competitive and satisfactory full time service."

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 476—SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY, DEVELOPMENT, AND STABILIZATION IN HAITI

Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

#### S. RES. 476

Whereas Haiti has a per capita gross domestic product (GDP) of \$361, over 65 percent of the population lives under the poverty line, 50 percent of the population does not have access to clean water, and nearly 50 percent of the population is illiterate, according to the World Bank;

Whereas the Government of Haiti has fundamental requirements with respect to providing citizen security, protecting the rule of law, controlling drug trafficking, and fighting corruption;

Whereas, on March 2, 2004, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan stated, "We should put the people of Haiti at the center of everything we try to do, and try and help them build a better future. And as I have indicated before, I hope this time the international community will go in for the long haul and not a quick turn-around. We need to work with them to stabilize the country, and sustain the effort. It may take years and I hope we will have the patience to do it.";

Whereas the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) was established by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1542 on April 30, 2004, and extended again until August 15, 2006, by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1658, "with the intention to renew for further periods";

Whereas over 40 countries participate in MINUSTAH, including 12 countries from the Western Hemisphere;

Whereas the leadership of MINUSTAH is comprised of representatives from Canada, Brazil, and Chile;

Whereas more than 3,500,000 Haitians registered to vote in Haiti according to the Organization of American States;

Whereas more than 2,000,000 Haitians voted in the national elections on February 7, 2006, according to the Haitian Provisional Electoral Council (CEP); and

Whereas more than \$1,000,000,000 was pledged at the International Donors Conference in July 2004 in support of Haiti's Interim Cooperation Framework: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) urges reconciliation among the people of Haiti, including a government led by President-elect Rene Preval that respects the rights of all political parties;

(2) supports the efforts of President-elect Preval to coordinate municipal and local elections in 2006;

(3) thanks the countries that are contributing personnel to MINUSTAH, particularly Brazil, whose President, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, announced on March 13, 2006, that peacekeepers from Brazil will stay in Haiti for as long as the new government in Haiti needs them;

(4) supports efforts by the United States to encourage Canada, Chile, and Argentina to maintain their commitments to MINUSTAH;

(5) strongly encourages the members of the United Nations Security Council to continue to support the current troop levels of MINUSTAH and to raise significantly the numbers of United Nations civilian police forces;

(6) urges the broader international community to continue to support MINUSTAH, to fulfill the pledges made at the July 2004 International Donors Conference, and to plan for a new multi-year commitment of support at a new donor's conference to be held no later than July 2006;

(7) recommends the creation of an effective demobilization, disarmament, and reintegration program to encompass former military members and gangs;

(8) recommends that the new government cooperate fully with MINUSTAH in assuring police and judiciary reform; and

(9) supports assistance from the United States Government to support the reconstruction of Haiti, including programs to promote job creation, governance and rule of law, protection of the environment, access to basic education and health care, and reconstruction of vital infrastructure.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, May 12, 2006, at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing on Nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2791

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2791) to amend titles 46 and 49, United States Code, to provide improved maritime, rail, and public transportation security, and for other purposes.

Mr. FRIST. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

## SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY DEVELOPMENT AND STABILIZATION IN HAITI

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 476, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 476) supporting democracy development and stabilization in Haiti.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statement relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD as if read, without intervening action our debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 476) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 476

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Whereas, on March 2, 2004, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan stated, "We should put the people of Haiti at the center of everything we try to do, and try and help them build a better future. And as I have indicated before, I hope this time the international community will go in for the long haul and not a quick turn-around. We need to work with them to stabilize the country, and sustain the effort. It may take years and I hope we will have the patience to do it.";

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